

Q2
~~a large control rod comprising four control rod blades extending radially from a central portion and arranged at right angles to each other, said blades defining four quadrants of said fuel cell, each said quadrant containing only four fuel bundles;~~
said plurality of fuel cells arranged so that said control rods are in a staggered row pattern where each side of each said quadrant of a fuel cell is adjacent to a control rod blade.

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10. (amended) A nuclear reactor core configuration, said core comprising a plurality of fuel bundles and a plurality of large control rods, each said control rod comprising four control rod blades extending radially from a central portion and arranged at right angles to each other, said blades defining four fuel bundle receiving channels, said configuration comprising:
said plurality of large fuel bundles arranged in a staggered row pattern; and
said fuel bundles arranged with only four fuel bundles in each said receiving channel.

Remarks

The Office Action dated November 30, 2001 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 12, and 13 are pending in this application. Claims 1-13 stand rejected. Claims 3, 7, and 11 have been canceled.

Submitted herewith is a Submission Of Marked Up Claims in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii).

Submitted herewith for approval are new Figures 2 and 3 with the legend Prior Art.

Applicants respectfully traverse the suggestion in the Office Action that Figure 1 is prior art because "only that which is old is illustrated". The present application describes Applicants'